



**U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE,  
ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
GENERAL LITIGATION SECTION  
EXPERIENCED TRIAL ATTORNEYS GS-12 TO GS-15  
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The [Environment and Natural Resources Division \(ENRD\)](#) of the U.S. Department of Justice is seeking talented and experienced trial lawyers capable of assuming a challenging caseload for the General Litigation Section in Washington, DC. The attorneys selected for these positions will work initially on litigation involving the defense of the United States against claims that it has breached its trust responsibilities to Native American Tribes. These cases involve complicated factual and legal issues relating to the interpretation of treaties and statutes, and the management of Tribal natural resources and funds.

The [General Litigation Section](#) litigates cases arising from more than 80 different environmental and natural resource statutes, and numerous treaties, international agreements, interstate compacts and Congressional referrals. The diverse and dynamic subject matter of the Section's docket includes cases involving the National Forest Management Act, the National Park Service Organic Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and the National Trails System Act. The Section's cases, many of them of first impression and significant media interest, involve the stewardship of our national parks, forests, rangelands, wildlife refuges, and offshore resources; the Nation's trust relationship with Native Americans and Tribes; and vital federal programs ranging from nuclear materials management to military preparedness to energy policy and resource extraction. The Section handles cutting-edge litigation over Fifth Amendment takings claims and original actions in the U.S. Supreme Court to resolve boundary and water allocation disputes. The Section's cases are tried throughout the United States and its possessions and territories in both state and federal court. The Section represents virtually every major federal agency. For more information about the Environment & Natural Resources Division, visit the Justice Department's web site at: <http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd>.

**Qualifications:** The Section's docket is demanding and requires top caliber work product. Successful applicants will have a demonstrated record of complex case management, initiative and creativity, superb courtroom skills, outstanding legal writing, and a commitment to the highest ethical and professional standards.

Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar (any jurisdiction), have at least three years of post-J.D. experience, and be a U.S. citizen. Applicants should have a strong interest in federal litigation and/or trial work and an exceptional academic background. Judicial clerkship experience and familiarity with defensive civil litigation is highly desirable, and knowledge of trusts, Indian law or natural resource management is a plus. Applicants must demonstrate superior research, analytical, and writing abilities. Periodic travel is required.

Current salary and years of experience will determine the appropriate salary level in the GS-12 (\$62,886 - \$81,747) to GS-15 (\$103,947 - \$135,136) per annum range.

**Terms of Appointment:** Appointment to these positions is for a period not to exceed four years, and the positions are eligible for employment benefits such as health and life insurance, retirement coverage, paid vacation and sick leave, and a public transportation subsidy.

**Application Procedures:** Applicants must submit a resume or current OF-612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment), a cover letter (highlighting relevant experience), and a writing sample to:

U.S. Department of Justice  
Environment & Natural Resources Division  
General Litigation Section  
P.O. Box 663  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0663  
Attn: Gary Randall  
(ENRD-05-009-EXC)

No telephone calls please.

**Application Deadline:** The position is open until filled; however, applicants are encouraged to respond on or before January 28, 2005.

The U.S. Department of Justice is an Equal Opportunity/Reasonable Accommodation Employer. Except where otherwise provided by law, there will be no discrimination based on color, race, religion, national origin, politics, marital status, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, status as a parent, membership or nonmembership in an employee organization, or personal favoritism. The Department of Justice welcomes and encourages applications from persons with physical and mental disabilities. The Department is firmly committed to satisfying its affirmative obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to ensure that persons with disabilities have every opportunity to be hired and advanced on the basis of merit within the Department of Justice. This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

It is the policy of the Department to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment. Employment is also contingent upon the completion and satisfactory adjudication of a background investigation. Only U.S. citizens are eligible for employment with the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the United States Attorneys' Offices. Unless otherwise indicated in a particular job advertisement, non-U.S. citizens may apply for employment with other organizations, but should be advised that appointments of non-U.S. citizens are extremely rare; such appointments would be possible only if necessary to accomplish the Department's mission and would be subject to strict security requirements. Applicants who hold dual citizenship in the U.S. and another country will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of Justice considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. Applicants eligible for veterans' preference are encouraged to include that information in their cover letter or resume and attach supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214 or other substantiating documents) to their submissions.

This and selected other legal position announcements can be found on the Internet at:  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/oarm/attvacancies.html>.